



Department of Ecology

2006 Supplemental Budget - Capital *~Biennialized FTEs~*

Governor Gregoire's proposed 2006 Supplemental Capital Budget for Ecology focuses on cleaning up and preventing toxic chemicals and pollution and making much-needed local government infrastructure improvements.

This budget uses increased hazardous substance tax revenue in the state and local toxic accounts to rid the environment of dangerous toxic chemicals. The revenue supports cleanup of toxics at the Ports of Bellingham and Tacoma and toxic pollution on state-owned aquatic lands and uplands within a half-mile of Puget Sound, and provides for cleanup of toxic contamination at schools and playgrounds.

Included in this proposal are grants to locals for household and small business waste collection, recycling, and enforcement. Low-cost loans are made available to local governments to address critical infrastructure improvements. The highest priority projects in this category will receive the lower-cost financing to complete the needed improvements.

Puget Sound Initiative

Local Innovative Stormwater Project Grants ~ *\$2.5 million from the State Building Construction Account* ~ This will provide grant funding to local governments to meet critical stormwater management needs through the funding of innovative stormwater projects. These projects will protect or restore water quality, such as natural drainage and low-impact development activities and projects. This program could be a key component of a reinvigorated effort to address urban stormwater runoff statewide, while also focusing on Puget Sound projects to address emerging water quality issues.

Ecology/Department of Natural Resources Puget Sound Cleanup (state-owned aquatic land cleanup) ~ *\$5 million from the State Toxics Control Account* ~ This will initiate the process of focused cleanup on state owned aquatic lands. Jointly carried out by the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Ecology, this program will target contaminated aquatic sites where early cleanup and source control actions will allow for restoration of state resources, including geoduck, other shellfish, and/or habitat features. The selected pilots will integrate aquatic cleanup with adjacent upland source removal and source control. The work will be done through a combination of direct action by the state, contributions from potentially liable parties, and interagency agreements with affected local governments and resource agencies.

Local Toxics Remedial Action Grants

Grant funds from the Local Toxics Control Account (LTCA) are provided to local governments for several programs designed to manage, prevent, recycle, and clean up toxic and solid waste in the land, air, and water.

Bellingham Bay Cleanup ~ *\$7.5 million from the Local Toxics Control Account* ~ The Bellingham Bay Cleanup consists of 11 in-water and adjacent nearshore contaminated properties, including the 137-acre Georgia-Pacific Mill property. These sites are in public ownership, with the Port of Bellingham as the principal party with cleanup liabilities at ten of these sites. This grant will initiate a significant amount of investigation, design and construction aimed at cleaning up these properties.

Port of Tacoma Cleanup ~ *\$3.4 million from the Local Toxics Control Account* ~ This grant will fully fund the Port of Tacoma - Pier 25 Embankment Cleanup project that will be ready to proceed in Fiscal Year 2007. This project will remove hazardous substances that present threats to human health and the environment and assist in the development and sustainability of economic growth for local governments.

Puget Sound Toxic Site Cleanup (cleanup site w/in ½ mile of Puget Sound) ~ *\$4 million from the State Toxics Control Account* ~ Cleanups will include a combination of strategies that utilize the Voluntary Cleanup Program, existing formal administrative oversight capabilities, and contracted cleanups for orphan and abandoned sites. Of the 9,934 known or suspected contaminated sites within the state, 1,137 have not been worked on due to resource limitations. In addition, 115 of these contaminated sites are within a half mile of the Puget Sound shoreline. An additional 553 sites within this same zone are in the process of being cleaned up, but are not yet complete.

On-site Sewage Repair Grants ~ *\$1.5 million from the State Water Quality Account and .8 FTE* ~ These grants will be used to establish new or expand existing on-site sewage repair and replacement loan or grant programs by county governments or tribes, or to develop a pilot program to administer an on-site sewage repair and replacement loan program through a qualified private or non-profit lending institution. Up to \$1 million of this amount may be used to help financially distressed homeowners repair and replace failing on-site sewage systems.

On-site Sewage Repair Loans ~ *\$5 million from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Account* ~ Loans will be used to establish new or expand existing on-site sewage repair and replacement loan programs by county governments or tribes, or to develop a pilot program to administer an on-site sewage repair and replacement loan program through a qualified private or non-profit lending institution. The agency will work with the Department of Health and the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team, local governments, and the lending industry to develop and pilot this program.

State Parks Wastewater Treatment Upgrade ~ *\$3.5 million from the State Toxics Control Account* ~ Wastewater Treatment upgrades will be made at the Twanoh, Dosewallips, Fort Casey, Fort Ebey, Birch Bay, and Sequim Bay state parks.

Early Spill Response Equipment Caching ~ *\$1.45 million from the Local Toxics Control Account (\$725,000 of this amount is for Puget Sound)* ~ Grants will be made to local governments to secure and place hazardous material spill response equipment at critical locations around the state. Grant funds will emphasize strategic placement of the equipment to allow for quick access and deployment by state, local, or tribal responders, in the event of a spill.

Toxics Threat Initiatives

Coordinated Prevention Grants ~ *\$8 million from the Local Toxics Control Account* ~ Grant funds from the Department of Ecology are provided to local governments for Coordinated Prevention Grants (CPG). These grants are used for local government solid and hazardous waste planning, household and small business hazardous waste collection and disposal, recycling capital purchases and program development, and local solid waste enforcement. Local governments accepted federal delegation authority to manage solid waste, and these grant funds provide critical infrastructure for them to carry out these responsibilities (this is particularly true for small local governments).

The CPG budget was reduced over 40% on the last days of the 2005 session, when all previous budgets had funded the program at or above the agency's budget request. This proposal adds \$8 million from the Local Toxics Control Account to CPG to restore the program to historic program funding levels.

Safe Soil Remediation and Awareness Projects ~ *\$3 million from the State Toxics Control Account* ~ This will address health risks to children posed by arsenic and lead at five schools by providing funding for soil investigations and cleanup. This is consistent with recommendations by the stakeholder Task Force formed in 2001 to consider the special challenges posed by widespread low-level lead and arsenic contamination caused by historic smelting and agriculture practices within the state.

Waste Tire Cleanup ~ *\$4 million from the Waste Tire Removal Account* ~ The agency will begin to clean up waste tires at the highest risk sites statewide. This work will include major progress at the Goldendale site in Klickitat County.